

GIFTED AND TALENTED POLICY

This policy should be read in conjunction with: Equal Opportunities Policy This policy is applicable to all children in the school including those in the Early Years Foundation Stage

Introduction

At RGS Dodderhill, the staff are committed to ensuring that all pupils are provided with educational opportunities to fulfil their potential. This policy recognises that pupils of all abilities, including more able pupils, are entitled to a curriculum that will stretch, challenge and stimulate them. All members of staff are responsible for identifying those pupils who are Gifted and Talented. Identification is a continuous process and pupils may move on and off the Gifted and Talented Register dependent on their development.

Role of the Gifted and Talented Register

The Academic Deputy is responsible for collating the inputs from Departments into a Gifted and Talented Register. This register is located in a folder in Google Drive, and is updated electronically on the staff shared area. This register will be reviewed at staff meetings, as appropriate. Working with department staff, the HODs will establish a programme of activities to enhance the pupils' experience through additional activities and sessions. These opportunities may include working with Gifted and Talented pupils in other schools, visits in and out of school and entering pupils in competitions.

Definition

- Pupils with an ability to develop to a level significantly ahead of their year group (or with the potential to develop those abilities) are described as gifted and talented.
- 'Gifted' learners are those who have abilities in the context of RGS Dodderhill in one or more academic subjects, like Maths and English.
- 'Talented' learners are those who have high abilities in the context of RGS Dodderhill in practical skills in areas like sport, music, design or creative and performing arts.

Objectives

- Departments will review annually the progress of those pupils identified as Gifted and Talented and may alter the criteria and provision as a result of this.
- The progress of academic scholars will be tracked by the Academic Deputy Head. The progress of scholars for music, by the Head of Music. All scholars will be invited to a review meeting to discuss their progress and targets at least once per year.
- The PDA system will highlight any additional training needs for individual staff in teaching Gifted and Talented pupils.

Identification of Gifted and Talented pupils

Gifted and Talented pupils will generally excel, or have the potential to excel, in one or more of the following areas:

- General intellectual ability
- Creative thinking
- Specific subjects e.g. Maths or languages
- Physical Education
- Visual or performing arts, including Music

Departments will identify Gifted and Talented pupils by making a judgment based on an analysis of all or any of the following sources of information:

- Information from Feeder schools.
- Test and examination results, including entrance examinations and the award of scholarships. Standardised scores from Hodder or MiDYIS information and other tracking data.
- Teacher nomination based on classroom observation and work scrutiny.
- Departmental criteria.
- Achievement in related Co-curricular activities.

Teaching of the Gifted and Talented

The teaching of the Gifted and Talented could include some or all of the following strategies, which will also enrich the experience of all pupils:

- Differentiation, by providing extension (through complexity) and enrichment (through a broader range of content tasks and resources).
- The development of independent learning skills, allowing pupils to organise their own work, carry out tasks unaided and/or evaluate their work and the work of others.
- Opportunities to work with pupils of similar ability across the age range.
- The offering in school of related clubs, societies, music, drama, art and sporting activities, including lectures from relevant speakers.
- The promotion of external opportunities of academic and/or Co-curricular enrichment provision for the Gifted and Talented (e.g. competitions, masterclasses, enrichment days, residential experiences and visits).

Distinguishing characteristics of effective teaching for pupils of high ability include:

- A high level of subject knowledge and enthusiasm to work with the Gifted and Talented on the part of the teacher.
- Emphasis on creative problem solving and critical thinking.

- Higher order concepts and terminology.
- Risk taking by teacher and learner.
- Freedom to challenge and to admit error.
- Developing skills for independent research.
- Building on prior learning and experiences.

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